

is already funding several schemes for the educational, economic and social empowerment of the poor and weaker sections of society.

(b) and (c) The budget proposals for 2001 -2002 have not been presented, hence question does not arise.

Identity cards to disabled

467. SHRI NANA DCSHMUKH: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

fa) whether Government propose to issue identity cards to the disabled;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) for what purposes these will be used?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) to (c) At present, issue of identity cards for persons with disabilities is in vogue in some States. In order to have uniformity in the identity cards for persons with disabilities so as to ensure that various legitimate concessions/benefits are available to persons with disabilities, the Ministry after consultation with all concerned, has in August, 2000 circulated uniform guidelines in this regard to all States/Union Territories with a request to adopt the guidelines for the purpose.

Bifurcation of National SC/ST Finance and Development Corporation

468. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to separate the NATIONAL I SC/ST Finance and Development Corporation into two institutions;

(b) if so, by when Government are going to separate the Corporation and the reasons for such a separation; and

(c) if the Corporation is so bifurcated, which Corporation will come under which Ministry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) As a separate Ministry of Tribal Affairs has been created, the Cabinet in its meeting held on 5th December, 2000 has directed that the existing

National Scheduled Castes & Scheduled Tribes Finance & Development Corporation (NSTFDC) may be bifurcated into (i) National Scheduled Castes Finance & Development Corporation which will come under administrative control of Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment and (ii) National Scheduled Tribes Finance & Development Corporation which will come under the administrative control of Ministry of Tribal Affairs. The bifurcation of assets and liabilities of existing National Scheduled Castes & Scheduled Tribes Finance & Development Corporation (NSTFDC) between National Scheduled Tribes Finance & Development Corporation (NSTFDC) and National Scheduled Castes Finance & Development Corporation (NSCFDC) has been initiated. Bifurcation of Manpower and Zonal Offices has been done. The Registration of National Scheduled Tribes Finance and Development Corporation is under process.

SC's concern over Government's apathy towards disabled

469. SHRI CO. POULOSE: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Hon'ble Supreme Court has expressed serious concern over Government's apathy towards implementing job reservations for disabled: and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) and (b) In the order passed on 5.1.2001 in W.P.No.31/2000 (Amita Vs. Union of India & Ors.), regarding revision of the list of identified posts for persons with disabilities, the Hon'ble Supreme Court has *inter-alia* expressed concern and directed that within two months, the sub-committees would submit their report and within three months, the Expert Committee would furnish the revised list to the Government. As per the direction of the Hon'ble Supreme Court, the Expert Committee has been requested to take urgent action to finalise and submit the report to the Government.

Legislation to protect elder persons against domestic violence

470. SHRI K.M. KHAN: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state: